

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker on December 4, 2001, I had official business in my Congressional District and I missed rollcall votes 466, 467 and 468. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the aforementioned rollcall votes.

HONORING THE 2001 RIVERDALE
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishment of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a distinguished goal.

The Riverdale High School football team of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, won the state 5-A football championship this past season, the school's third state football title in 7 years. The Warriors ended the 2001 season with a perfect 15-0 record by beating Mid-state rival Hendersonville High School 35-7 in the Blue Cross Bowl.

The Riverdale Warriors trained vigorously and played tirelessly the entire season. They deserve recognition for a job well done. I congratulate each player, manager, trainer, and coach for an outstanding season. The Warriors are led by head coach Gary Rankin and assistant coaches Steve Britton, Ron Crawford, Ricky Field, Matt Gardner, Tracy Malone, Thomas McDaniel, Jason Scharsch, Matt Snow, Jeremy Stansbury, Nick Patterson and Greg Wyant. Managers Cody Dittfurth, Markey Burke, Cheryelle Ayers and Jennifer Headly contributed much time and effort to the team, as well, as did trainers Jennifer Snell, Lindsey Robinson and Celcka Akins.

The 2001 Class 5-A state champion Warriors are Corey Hathaway, Ward Poston, Tre' Dalton, Taron Henry, Marcus King, Jamaal Price, Grant Kolka, C.J. Powell, Terrell Coleman, LaBrian Lyons, Kevin Murray, Jervell Ford, Jay Carter, Stephen Britton, Ryan Hallman, Brian Campbell, Keith Bridges, Tron Baker, Alex Watson, Anton Bates, Don Mitchell, Devin Young, Ralph King, Edgar Martin, Jean Paul Gadie, Jeremy Jackson, Spike McDaniel, Edrell Smith, Emanuel Oglesby, Will Bullock, Andrew Morris, Jeremy Hurd, Kevin Davis, David Peterson, Tyler Campbell, A.J. Alexander, John Goodwin, Matthew Pedigo, John Batey, Albert Miles, Brandon Faulkner, Clay Richardson, Daniel Gammon, Brian Sawyer, Kris Kirby, Leon Alexander, Roger Winterbauer, Daniel Puckett, Charles Bigford, Michael Grove, Joe James, Brad Rainer, Ben Brazzell, Matthew Parton, John Awokoya, Ronnie Johns, Andrew Bigford, Wes Hall, William Lee, Marvin Richardson, Edward Belcher, Charles Todd, Kenyon Buford, Travis Livingston, Aubrey McCrary, Cortez Lawrence,

Dustin Davis, Daniel Jones, David Varl, David Nickens, Glen Suggs, Curtis Smith, Heath Evans, Chad Neese, Jason Kidd, Jeremy Anderson and Rhyan Maupin.

TRIBUTE TO THE ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION
OF GREATER DETROIT**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a community whose outstanding dedication and commitment has led to a great accomplishment. On Saturday, November 10, 2001, the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit will celebrate the completion of its beautiful Mosque expansion, a project that has been the heart and driving force of this entire community.

Located in Rochester Hills, the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit (IAGD) has always been a flourishing center of religious and social activity. Joyfully celebrating Ramadan and the Eid holidays, while lending a helping hand to those suffering and working for charitable causes, the IAGD has been a welcoming home to all who have walked through its doors.

However as the community began to grow and expand, its ideas and vision for the future began to grow with it. Dedication over fifteen years of their time and talents to expansion efforts, this community envisioned a center that would continue to cultivate its community roots as well as reach out to younger generations. With new constructions including a large banquet and social hall, classrooms, library, gymnasium, and so much more, the completion of this Mosque expansion has truly become an example to all communities. Donating their time, money and efforts to a vision that is shared by Muslim Americans across the nation, this community's hard work and dedication to the completion of this beautiful new Mosque will assuredly become an inspiration for the next generations of Muslims in America.

I applaud the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit for reaching this historic milestone, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this landmark occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY
OF GARDEN VILLAS ELEMENTARY
MUSIC MAGNET
SCHOOL**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 70th Anniversary of Garden Villas Elementary Music Magnet School, a campus of the Houston Independent School District. The anniversary celebration will be held the week of December 3-7, 2001.

Garden Villas Music Academy was established in 1931 to accommodate those students

in grade levels 1-10 residing in the Garden Villas region of southwest Houston. This community has a rich history that dates back to World War II. In the early 1950s the neighborhood was annexed into Houston incorporating Garden Villas Elementary into Houston Independent School District. Located on an acre of land, the school provides a comfortable and peaceful atmosphere, an ideal location for the cultivation of music skills. Currently, Garden Villas Elementary serves 920 students ranging from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

The mission of Garden Villas Elementary is to provide a safe environment in which students enhance their academic growth and enrich their education by participating in an exceptional music and fine arts curriculum. Students receive specialized instruction in a variety of areas, including strings, band, piano, art, dance, creative writing, and gymnastics. The faculty encourages young artists to work together to prepare performances and create exhibitions that display their appreciation of the arts, develop creativity and build self-esteem. Excellence in the arts is a natural, integrated extension of the academic program at Garden Villas Elementary Magnet School.

In addition to exemplary curriculum, Garden Villas Elementary, participates in programs designed to develop socially conscious, well-rounded students, such as United Way Kids, Red Ribbon Week, St. Jude's Mathathon and D.A.R.E. I applaud the faculty of Garden Villas Elementary for their creativity and leadership.

Again, I would like to recognize the 70th Anniversary of Garden Villas Elementary Music Magnet School and congratulate the students and faculty on 70 years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

November 29, 2001, rollcall vote 459, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea".

November 30, 2001, rollcall vote 465, on agreeing to the conference report for H.R. 2299, I would have voted "yea".

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS
OF HISPANIC CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to the success of Hispanic businesses in the United States and Latin America and to offer my strong support of H. Con. Res. 277.

The Hispanic community has become the fastest growing minority group in the United